

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS STATE 207317

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNGA, UNITAR

SUBJ: 28TH GA: SECOND COMMITTEE--ITEM 47--UNITAR

REF: (A) UN DOCUMENT A/9014

(B) DRAFT OF NICOL'S STATEMENT FOR SECOND

COMMITTEE SESSION

(C) USUN 3930

1. FOLLOWING REPRESENTS US POSITION AND TALKING POINTS
FOR USDEL INTERVENTION DURING SECOND COMMITTEE CONSID-
ERATION OF UNITAR REPORT:

2. USDEL HAS LISTENED WITH INTEREST TO EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S ORAL STATEMENT AND CAREFULLY READ REPORT
ON RECENT WORK OF UNITAR. US GRATIFIED TO NOTE THAT
NICOL HAS DIRECTED REVIEW OF UNITAR ACTIVITIES ON TAKING
OFFICE AND THAT HE TOGETHER WITH NEWLY APPOINTED AND
UNCLASSIFIED

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NEWLY ENLARGED BOARD OF TRUSTEES PLANS TO UNDERTAKE FULL
SCALE REVIEW OF UNITAR'S PRIORITIES NEXT YEAR. IN VIEW
OF MANIFOLD RANGE OF PROBLEMS WHICH HAVE BEEN PROPOSED
FOR UNITAR ACTION, AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT CIRCUMSTANCE
THAT UNITAR'S RESOURCES IN STAFF AND FUNDS ARE LIMITED,

US BELIEVES THAT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHOULD PERIODICALLY REVIEW MOST USEFUL DIRECTIONS WHICH UNITAR'S WORK SHOULD TAKE.

3. US FINDS PRESENT UNITAR CONCENTRATION ON SELECTED SUBJECTS TO BE APPROPRIATE: (1) STRUCTURE AND PROCEDURES OF THE UN; (2) CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND (3) ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT. WE BELIEVE THAT UNITAR'S PLAN OF WORK, AS REVEALED IN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORTS, IS GENERALLY ON THE BEAM, BUT HAVE CERTAIN RESERVATIONS EXPLAINED LATER IN THIS STATEMENT.

4. US CONSIDERS THAT UNITAR STUDIES IN FIELD OF PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION ARE PARTICULARLY VALUABLE AND HOPEFULLY WILL SERVE TO STRENGTHEN CAPABILITIES OF UN TO PERFORM ITS UNIQUE RESPONSIBILITIES AS SOLE WORLD-WIDE ORGANIZATION FOR MAINTENANCE OF PEACE AND STABILITY. OUTLINES OF SERIES OF STUDIES ON "CONFIDENCE BUILDING" STIMULATED BY HELSINKI CSCE CONSULTATIONS AND ON MEANS OF SETTLING DIFFERENCES BETWEEN STATES IN FIELDS OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT APPEAR TO US TO BE PARTICULARLY PROMISING.

5. WE HAVE STUDIED WITH INTEREST THE EXPLORATORY WORK BY UNITAR WITH REGARD TO "PROJECT ON THE FUTURE" AND WILL EXAMINE WITH INTEREST WHEN AVAILABLE THE INITIAL STUDIES WHICH UNITAR HAS UNDERTAKEN TO OUTLINE PROSPECTIVE ACTIVITIES IN THIS FIELD. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT ANY SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN ACTIVITIES IN THIS AREA, WHICH BY ITS VERY NATURE REQUIRES INPUT FROM SKILLED AND WELL EQUIPPED EXPERTS, WILL BE UNDERTAKEN ONLY WHEN A CLEAR PERCEPTION DEVELOPS OF UNITAR'S ROLE, AMONG THE MANY INSTITUTIONS IN THE WORLD'S ACADEMIC COMMUNITY NOW ACTIVE IN THIS FIELD, UNCLASSIFIED

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AND AFTER SPECIAL PURPOSE FUNDS ARE MADE AVAILABLE BY FOUNDATIONS OR GOVERNMENTS.

6. WE ARE PLEASED TO NOTE THAT UNITAR HAS DECIDED TO BRING TO CLOSE WORK IN SEVERAL FIELDS OF STUDY. WE SEE SUCH A DEVELOPMENT AS APPROPRIATE--UNITAR SHOULD EXAMINE PROBLEMS, DEVELOP POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS, AND THEN MOVE ON TO OTHER PROMISING FIELDS OF RESEARCH. (FYI: THIS PASSAGE RELATES TO UNITAR'S DECISION TO COMPLETE PRESENT STUDIES BUT UNDERTAKE NO FURTHER WORK ON "BRAIN DRAIN" AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY. SOME LDC'S MAY DEPLORE THIS ACTION. USDEL SHOULD SUPPORT UNITAR ON GROUNDS THAT RESEARCH PHASE WILL BE COMPLETED AND THAT ACTIVITIES WITH RESPECT TO BRAIN DRAIN AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY ARE BEING ACTIVELY PURSUED BY OTHER AGENCIES IN UN SYSTEM.)

7. US HAS CONSISTENTLY ENDORSED CONCEPT OF SPECIALIZED IN-HOUSE TRAINING FOR MIDDLE AND HIGHER ECHELONS OF SECRETARIATS OF UN AND SPECIALIZED AGENCIES. WE ARE PLEASED TO NOTE THAT THIS CONCEPT, ORIGINALLY ENVISAGED AS "UN STAFF COLLEGE" HAS BEEN REVISED AND THAT UNITAR NOW PROPOSES THAT THIS TYPE OF TRAINING BE INITIATED BY UNIT WITHIN UNITAR AT MORE MODEST LEVEL OF STAFFING. WE HOPE THAT UNDP, UN AND OTHER AGENCIES IN THE SYSTEM WILL FIND IT WORTHWHILE TO ASSIST IN FINANCING THIS ACTIVITY ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT UNITAR WILL ALSO BEAR A SUBSTANTIAL SHARE OF THE FINANCIAL BURDEN FROM ITS GENERAL FUND.

8. (FYI: DRAFT OF NICOL STATEMENT CONTAINS HEADING "UN UNIVERSITY" BUT NO TEXT. FOLLOWING POSITION SHOULD BE ADJUSTED IN LIGHT OF NICOL'S REMARKS ON UNU.) "USDEL SHOULD NOTE THAT SECOND COMMITTEE WILL SHORTLY MOVE TO CONSIDER STEPS WHICH ARE BEING TAKEN FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UN UNIVERSITY, A DEVELOPMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE TO UNITAR. WHILE WE WERE FAVORABLY IMPRESSED WITH THE PROPOSED ROLE OF UNITAR, AS SET FORTH IN FEASIBILITY STUDIES CONTAINED IN THE SECRETARY-UNCLASSIFIED

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GENERAL'S 1972 REPORT ON THE UN UNIVERSITY, THE PRESENT DRAFT CHARTER DOES NOT DEFINE ANY SPECIAL ROLE FOR UNITAR VIS-A-VIS THE UNIVERSITY. THE U.S. BELIEVES THIS RELATIONSHIP SHOULD BE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED AND MADE EXPLICIT IN THE CHARTER; AT THIS POINT WE ARE CONCERNED THAT THE UNGA MAY BE ASKED TO APPROVE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ANOTHER INSTITUTION WHICH MAY OVERLAP AND DUPLICATE UNITAR." (FYI: SEE POSITION PAPER ON UN UNIVERSITY FOR RESUMED ECOSOC SESSION, OCT. 12, 1973.)

9. USDEL SHOULD SERIOUSLY QUESTION UNITAR PROPOSAL TO EMBARK ON ACTIVITIES IN FIELD OF COMMUNICATIONS WHICH APPARENTLY GO WELL BEYOND PROPER UNITAR ROLE OF RESEARCH. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT SUGGESTS THAT UNITAR PLANS EXPERIMENTS IN COMMUNICATIONS TECHNIQUES, INCLUDING "OPEN UNIVERSITIES" AND TELEVISION SIMULATION ON THE USES OF THE SEA. IN OUR VIEW SUCH ACTIVITIES ARE IN THE PROVINCE OF THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION AND UNESCO, INSOFAR AS THEY RELATE TO INFORMATION AND EDUCATION.

10. US TAKES NOTE OF OBSERVATION BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR THAT INSTITUTE HAS NOT RECEIVED APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM MEMBERS OF THE UN AND ENDORSES SUGGESTION THAT EACH GOVERNMENT CONSIDER CAREFULLY WHETHER PRESENT AND POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF UNITAR MERIT FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS. US HAS CONTRIBUTED ANNUALLY SINCE INCEPTION OF UNITAR AND OVER THE YEARS

HAS PROVIDED OVER 30 TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL CONTRIBUTIONS. FURTHERMORE, US PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS HAVE GENEROUSLY

SUPPORTED UNITAR THROUGH PROVISION OF BUILDING AND OF
FUNDS FOR SPECIAL PROJECTS.

11. USDEL MAY VOTE FOR DRAFT RESOLUTION (REF C). KISSINGER

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